



## DOG TRAINING PERMIT APPLICATION

North Dakota Game and Fish  
 100 North Bismarck Expressway  
 Bismarck, ND 58501  
 SFN 6532 3-96 (Revised 5-07)

|  |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
|--|------|---------|--------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Name of Applicant:   |      |         |        | Address:            |            |                         |
| City:  |      |         |        | State:<br>Zip Code: |            | Social Security Number: |
| DOB:   | Sex: | Height: | Weight | Eye Color           | Hair Color | Calendar Year:          |
| Telephone day/evening/cell:  |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Training Headquarters in North Dakota:   |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Address:   |      | City    |        | State/Zip Code      |            |                         |
| Check One:   |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| [ ] \$10 Resident Professional – for training exercises or hosting field trials.                         |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| [ ] \$100 Non-resident Professional – for training exercises or hosting field trials.                    |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| [ ] \$25 Non-resident Amateur – who bring more than four dogs into North Dakota.                         |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| [ ] \$10 Exempt training area professional – for one specific training area not to exceed 40 acres.      |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| List counties where training is to take place:   |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Legal land description and county of exempt training area; Must be completed before permit to be issued. |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Are propagated birds or birds from the wild to be used?  |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Proposed start date of training.   |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Proposed end date of training.   |      |         |        |                     |            |                         |
| Signature:   |      |         |        |                     | Date:      |                         |

## **GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING PERMITS TO USE LIVE PROTECTED BIRDS FOR DOG TRAINING AND FIELD TRIALS**

### **Introduction**

Dog trainers and hunting dog clubs periodically use live protected game birds for training and competition. These guidelines explain state law and permitting procedures for this type of activity.

### **Use of Unprotected Species or Species Not Present in the Wild**

Unprotected species such as pigeons, as well as bobwhite quail and chuckar partridge, which are protected species but are not present in the wild in North Dakota, can be used for dog training and field trials without a permit pertaining to the use of the birds. Note however, that if the training is done on public land a permit may be required by the appropriate land management agency.

### **Use of Protected Game Birds**

Game birds are defined by state law as, "all varieties of geese, brant, swans, ducks, plovers, snipes, woodcocks, grouse, sagehens, pheasants, Hungarian partridges, quails, partridges, cranes, rails, coots, wild turkeys, mourning doves, and crows." No person may possess these live protected birds without first obtaining a propagation permit from the Office of the State Veterinarian, except that:

1. As previously noted, bobwhite quail and chuckar partridge may be used without obtaining a propagation permit or marking birds.

2. Dog trainers who hold protected game birds for 90 days or less, have proof of origin (i.e. a sales receipt from a licensed propagator), and have all birds marked by the propagator (i.e. banded, toe clipped, etc.) may possess protected game birds without a propagation permit.

Birds must be clearly marked to differentiate them from wild birds. If protected game birds (other than bobwhite quail or chuckar partridge) are used in an area where a wild population of the same species exists (ie. pheasants) we strongly recommend the use of colored streamers or some other type of visible marking easily seen on flushed birds. At a minimum, all birds used must

be either toe clipped or banded, with toe clipping being the preferred method of marking.

**Shooting wild game birds during the closed season is a violation of state law. Protect your sport by having a well run, efficient operation.**

**Permit to Train with Privately Owned Game Birds**

The following table describes the conditions and permits required for individuals or groups to conduct dog training with live protected game birds. Permits can be obtained through the District Game Warden for the area where the training or field trial site is located. Permits to utilize Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management Areas for training or field trials can be requested from the Department's Wildlife Resource Management Biologists for the area. These staff members are located at Game and Fish offices at Devils Lake, Jamestown, Bismarck, Riverdale and Williston.

AMATEUR DOG TRAINING WITH PROTECTED GAME BIRDS

| Type of Amateur Trainer | Land Ownership   | Non Traditional Livestock License Required?* | Permit to Train with Game Birds Required? |
|-------------------------|------------------|--|---|
| Individual (<=4)        | Private          | Yes*   | N/A                                       |
| Group (>4)              | Private          | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Field Trial             | Private          | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Individual (<=4)        | Public (G&F)     | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Group (>4)              | Public (G&F)     | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Field Trial             | Public (G&F)     | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Individual (<=4)        | Public (Non G&F) | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Group (>4)              | Public (non G&F) | Yes*   | Yes                                       |
| Field Trial             | Public (Non G&F) | Yes*   | Yes                                       |

\*If birds are held 90 days or less, proof of origin (ie. sales receipt) is available, and birds are marked by propagator (id. Banded, toe clipped, etc.) dog trainers do not need a Non

Traditional Livestock License.

NOTE: Game birds cannot be brought in from out-of-state without Non Traditional Livestock License and disease free certification fro any imported birds, as per requirements of the Board of Animal Health.

**Other Laws and Rules Related to Dog Training**

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) 20.1-04-12 limits when dogs are permitted to run loose. It states, "**When gun dogs not to be trained or permitted to run loose - Exceptions - Penalty.** No person classified as a professional trainer, between April first and July fourteenth of each year, both dates inclusive, shall train or run any gun dog or allow any such dog to run loose. For purposes of this section, a professional trainer is any person who trains any breed of gun dog for remuneration which is the basis for his livelihood. This section does not prohibit the running of gun dog field trials, nor does this section prohibit the training of an individual's personal gun dog during that period provided that (1) landowner permission is secured by the trainer, (2) the trainer is present, (3) no native game birds are killed or captured, and (4) the training is not on a designated game management area or designated waterfowl production area. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a class 2 noncriminal offense."

North Dakota Administrative Code (NDAC) 30-04-02-14.2 restricts the conditions under which field trials may be run and when and by whom dogs may be trained on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).

It states, "Field trials for dogs are prohibited without a permit issued by the department. Training of bird and gun dogs is prohibited April first through August fifteenth on all state wildlife management areas. Training of dogs on any state wildlife management areas by a professional trainer is prohibited at all times. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a noncriminal offense and shall pay a one hundred dollar fee."

The 1991 Legislature established the following law:

**20.1-04-12.1. Gun dog activities - Permit required - Fee.**

1. The director shall issue a permit for the following gun dog activities:
  - a. The training exercises of a **resident or nonresident professional dog trainer**;
  - b. The training exercises of a **nonresident amateur trainer** who brings more than four gun dogs into the state; and
  - c. Hosting field trials that use live **wild** birds. (Note: no

- fee required).
2. The application for the permit must be in a form prescribed by the director and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.
  3. Upon receipt of the completed application and fee the director shall issue a permit for a specified period of time and shall require the permit holder to submit an annual report.
  4. The fees for the permits are:
    - a. For a resident professional gun dog trainer for training exercises or hosting field trials, ten dollars.
    - b. For a nonresident professional gun dog trainer for training exercises or hosting field trials, one hundred dollars.
    - c. For a permit to a nonresident amateur who brings more than four gun dogs into this state, twenty-five dollars.
  5. For purposes of this section a professional trainer is a person who trains any breed of gun dog for remuneration that is the basis for that person's livelihood.

The 2009 Legislature established the following law:

**20.1-04-12.2. Gun dog training area - Permit.**

Notwithstanding section 20.1-04-12, a professional trainer may apply to and obtain from the department a permit designating a specific training area, not to exceed forty acres [16.19 hectares], as an exempt training area.

1. In the exempt training area, a professional trainer may train or run any gun dog or allow the gun dog to run loose at any time.
2. The fee for the permit may not exceed ten dollars per year.

**SUMMARY OF LICENSES & PERMITS**

| <u>Type of Permit</u>  | <u>Where to Obtain</u>                            | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Duration</u>               |
|--|---|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Non-Traditional Livestock License                                  | Board of Animal Health - Bismarck                 | \$5.00      | Year                          |
| To Train with Game Birds (field trials, clinics, routine training) | Private Land - District Warden                    | No Charge   | Event or Agreed Upon Duration |
|  | G & F Land - WMA Manager                          | No Charge   |                               |
| Public Land Use <sup>1</sup>                                       | G & F Land - WMA Manager                          | No Charge   | Event or Agreed Upon Duration |
|  | Other Public Land-Affected Land Management Agency | Unknown     |                               |

<sup>1</sup> Permits for dog training or field trials on public land are issued by the entity managing the land to be used. In instances of federal land use this might be the Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, etc. It is the responsibility of individuals or clubs to contact these federal agencies and ensure compliance with their regulations. It is also the responsibility of the individual or group acquiring the permit to furnish a copy of the permit to the District Game Warden in the area where the event will occur prior to holding the event.

## Questions and Answers

**Q -** Two of my hunting buddies and I want to buy a few pheasants and have our dogs flush them so we can shoot them over the dogs to tune them up before bird season. One of my buddies has some land where we can run the dogs. We have another friend who raises pheasants and he said we could buy a few from him at a good price. What permits do we need?

**A -** Since your group is less than 4 people and you will be training on private land you do not need a permit to train with game birds. If you buy your pheasants and use them for training right away you won't need a propagation permit. If you plan to hold them longer than 90 days the person housing the birds will need a non-traditional livestock license, issued by the Board of Animal Health.

**Q -** I belong to a dog training club of about 30 members and we plan to have a group training session and will use quail and pheasants. We will shoot some of the birds but will mainly just point or flush the birds. There is a nice Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) near my place and I hope we can use that land to train our dogs. How do I make the proper arrangements?

**A -** With a group that size you will need a permit to train with game birds. Contact the Game and Fish Department Warden in your area. If you don't know who to contact call our Enforcement Division office in Bismarck at 701/328/6604 - they can help

direct you to the right District Warden. If you hope to train on a WPA, managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) you will have to check with them to see if they allow that type of activity. If you don't know how to contact the local FWS manager call their Bismarck office at 701/250-4418 and they can direct you to the correct field manager. As in the previous example, if you buy your pheasants and use them for your group training right away you won't need a propagation permit. If you plan to hold them longer than 90 days the person housing the birds will need a non-traditional livestock license, issued by the Board of Animal Health.

**Q - I want to train my individual hunting dog on a state Wildlife Management Area (WMA). I will be working alone, and will work with mostly wild birds just flushing them and working on steadiness. Just prior to the bird season I'd like to buy a few pheasants if I can find some at a reasonable price and plant them so I can shoot them over my dog. What do I need to do?**

**A -** To train your dog by simply flushing wild birds on a WMA, no permits are required. You need to keep in mind however, that training of bird dogs on any WMA is prohibited from April 1 to August 15 each year. In order to utilize planted game birds on a WMA you will need a permit to train with game birds, issued by the WMA manager. Contact our Bismarck office at 701/328/6351 if you do not know which manager to contact. The WMA manager will furnish the area District Warden a copy of the permit. As before, if you buy your pheasants and use them for your training right away you won't need a non-traditional livestock license. If you plan to hold them longer than 90 days you will need non-traditional livestock license, issued by the Board of Animal Health.

**Q - I belong to an organized group that trains hunting dogs and occasionally conducts field trials. We would like to schedule a field trial, likely involving about 40 - 50 people, on a WMA that has both upland cover and water. We will need to plant both quail and pheasant in upland cover and utilize flightless mallards for water retrieves. What permits do we need?**

**A -** The Department does not allow organized field trials on all WMAs. Rather, we have identified several WMAs scattered around

the state that seem to meet the needs of field trials and direct field trial activities to those areas. In order to hold a field trial on a WMA you will need a permit to train with game birds, issued by the WMA manager. Contact our Bismarck office at 701/328/6351 if you do not know which manager to contact. The WMA manager will furnish the area District Warden a copy of the permit. As before, if you buy your pheasants and use them for your training right away you won't need a non-traditional livestock license. If you plan to hold them longer than 90 days you will need non-traditional livestock license, issued by the Board of Animal Health. You must contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service at 701-255-0593 to obtain the proper permits to possess waterfowl.

**Rev. 07/**





**ANNUAL REPORT – DOG TRAINER PERMIT**  
**NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION**  
Sfn 6535 (07-2000)

THIS REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A NEW PERMIT

|  |  |        |           |
|--|--|--------|-----------|
| Permit Number:   |  | Year:  |           |
| Name:  |  |        |           |
| Address:   |  |        |           |
| City:  |  | State: | Zip Code: |
| Number of dogs trained under this permit:                        |  |        |           |
| List counties where training took place:                         |  |        |           |
| Were propagated birds or birds from the wild used?               |  |        |           |
| How much time did you spend in this state for training purposes? |  |        |           |
| Signature:   |  | Date   |           |

**NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT**  
**100 NORTH BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY**  
**BISMARCK, ND 58501-5095**

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

APPLICATION/PERMIT TO USE LIVE PROTECTED  
GAME BIRDS FOR DOG TRAINING OR FIELD TRIALS

**SEND APPLICATION(S) TO THE DISTRICT GAME WARDEN IN YOUR AREA**

Date:

Applicants Name:

Training or Field Trial Location (Give legal description):

Is any of this land a North Dakota Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management area?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Training or Field Trial Dates:

Type of Game Bird to be used?

How will your birds be marked?

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Approved/Disapproved: \_\_\_\_\_  
North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Posted: 7/22/2009

Explanation/Special conditions:  
(Revised 9-92)